

# CIVIL WAR WEEKEND



**May 4-6, 2012**

**Williamsburg  
Virginia**

## **VIRGINIA'S CIVIL WAR 150 HISTORYMOBILE**

The expandable 78-foot tractor-trailer contains a high-tech immersive experience detailing Virginia's incomparable place in American history. The HistoryMobile draws together stories from all over Virginia and uses state-of-the-art technology and immersive exhibit spaces to present individual stories of the Civil War and Emancipation from the viewpoints of those who experienced it - young and old, enslaved and free, soldiers and civilians. Its four-year tour began in July 2011, and it has received widespread praise as it travels throughout Virginia and beyond. The exhibits on the HistoryMobile were designed through a partnership between the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission, the Virginia Historical Society, and the Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania National Battlefields Park. The HistoryMobile is also supported by the Virginia Tourism Corporation, through which visitors can obtain information on visiting Virginia Civil War sites at the exhibit, as well as by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles.

### **Battle of Williamsburg Commemoration**

*All programs are free and open to the public. No ticket is required.*

The schedule of weekend events in City Square includes, but is not limited to, the following:

#### **THURSDAY, MAY 3**

##### **6:30 p.m. - CONSTITUTIONAL CONVERSATIONS - "WAS SECESSION SOUTHERN REALPOLITIK?"**

A special program featuring Robert F. Engs, professor of history emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania and distinguished visiting professor of history at the College of William and Mary. His talk on constitutional issues that prompted the Civil War wraps up the second season of Constitutional Conversations, the award-winning series of programs about the Constitution and Bill of Rights co-sponsored by the Institute of Bill of Rights Law at the William and Mary School of Law, Williamsburg Regional Library and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. For more details visit: [www.constitutionalconversations.com](http://www.constitutionalconversations.com)

#### **FRIDAY, MAY 4**

##### **10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - HISTORYMOBILE**

HistoryMobile open for school groups - Interested groups may call 220-6197 for information.

##### **10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - ARTILLERY AND LIFE ON THE HOMEFRONT DEMONSTRATIONS**

Library Lawn

1st Regiment Virginia Volunteers/North-South Skirmish Association (NSSA) - Demonstrations and firings of a 10-pounder Parrott Rifle. The North-South Skirmish Association (N-SSA) was formed in 1950 to commemorate the heroism of the soldiers of both sides, who fought in the American Civil War.

##### **4:30 - 6:00 p.m. - SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE RECEPTION**

Williamsburg Community Building, 401 N. Boundary Street

Light refreshments and music - The reception will open the traveling exhibit of the Virginia Historical Society's "An American Turning Point: The Civil War in Virginia," which will be on display all weekend.

##### **4:30 - 6:00 p.m. - HISTORYMOBILE**

HistoryMobile open to the public

#### **SATURDAY, MAY 5**

##### **10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. - HISTORYMOBILE**

HistoryMobile open to the public

##### **10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - "AN AMERICAN TURNING POINT: THE CIVIL WAR IN VIRGINIA"**

Williamsburg Community Building, 401 N. Boundary Street

##### **10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - ARTILLERY AND LIFE ON THE HOMEFRONT DEMONSTRATIONS**

Library Lawn

(over)

## **SATURDAY, MAY 5** (continued)

### **10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - CIVIL WAR LEGACY PROJECT**

Schell Room, Williamsburg Library

Residents are invited to bring their Civil War-era items. The Library of Virginia is sending teams of archivists to scan privately-held manuscript material for inclusion on both the Library of Virginia and the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission websites.

### **10:30 - 11:30 a.m. - LECTURE: PRELUDE TO THE BATTLE OF WILLIAMSBURG**

Williamsburg Library

Mike Cobb, Curator, Hampton History Museum

### **12:30 - 1:30 p.m. - LECTURE: FORWARD TO RICHMOND: THE PENINSULA CAMPAIGN OF 1862**

Williamsburg Library

Michael Moore, Curator, Lee Hall Mansion and Endview Plantation

Covering the Peninsula Campaign's conception, the arrival of the Union Army of the Potomac on the lower Peninsula, the advance up the Peninsula, and the subsequent siege operations along the Warwick-Yorktown line.

### **1:45 - 4:45 p.m. - SHOWINGS OF "VIRGINIA IN THE CIVIL WAR: A SESQUICENTENNIAL REMEMBRANCE"**

Williamsburg Library

A video exploring the Civil War, including: causes, military campaigns, soldier life, the home front, slavery, and more. Includes commentaries by nationally-recognized scholars as well as photographs, on-site filming, living history, and re-enactments. Produced by the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, Virginia Tech in cooperation with Blue Ridge PBS, Roanoke.

### **5:00 - 6:00 p.m. - LECTURE: THE BATTLE OF WILLIAMSBURG**

Williamsburg Library

John Quarstein, award-winning historian, lecturer, and author

## **SUNDAY, MAY 6**

### **12:00 - 4:00 p.m. - HISTORYMOBILE**

HistoryMobile open to the public

### **12:00 - 4:00 p.m. - "AN AMERICAN TURNING POINT: THE CIVIL WAR IN VIRGINIA"**

Williamsburg Community Building, 401 N. Boundary Street

### **12:00 - 3:00 p.m. - ARTILLERY AND LIFE ON THE HOMEFRONT DEMONSTRATIONS**

Library Lawn

### **12:30 - 1:30 p.m. - PERFORMANCE: A WITNESS OF CONTRABAND**

Williamsburg Library

A one-woman show performed by Valarie Holmes, depicting the impact of the Civil War on African-Americans and women

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### **2:00 - 3:00 p.m. - TOUR OF WILLIAMSBURG'S REDOUBT PARK ON QUARTERPATH ROAD WITH JOHN QUARSTEIN**

Details about these and other weekend events are available on the online calendar, hosted and maintained by the Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance (GWCTA): [www.williamsburgccc.com/civilwar/events](http://www.williamsburgccc.com/civilwar/events)

*Local organizations participating in coordinating all Sesquicentennial efforts are: The Historic Triangle Collaborative, the Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, the National Park Service, James City and York counties, the City of Williamsburg, the Daughters of the Confederacy, the Virginia Gazette, College of William & Mary, the Williamsburg Garden Club, and Williamsburg Regional Library.*

